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COUNTRY PROGRAMMES, MID-TERM REVIEWS AND RELATED MATTERS

ASSISTANCE TO ZAIRE

Note by the Administrator

I. BACKGROUND

1. The second extension of the fourth country programme for Zaire was approved by the Governing Council in its decision 93/20 of 18 June 1993.

2. As a result of the persistent crisis resulting from the stalled political transition in Zaire, which has compounded an already disturbing socio-economic situation, it has not been feasible to proceed with the preparation of the fifth cycle country programme. As it is impossible to determine the duration of the present situation the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has advised the Government that it intends to proceed with project-by-project approval until normal conditions are established in the country, allowing UNDP and the Government to proceed with the formulation of the fifth cycle country programme.

3. During 1994, UNDP will pursue three programme activities, namely food security, poverty eradication and private sector development. In view of the prevailing socio-political situation in the country, specific interventions are also envisaged in the areas of HIV/AIDS, the transition to improved governance, and aid coordination. To the extent possible, the overall strategy will be the empowerment of the most vulnerable groups for sustainable human development. Support to emergency relief and humanitarian assistance will also be a priority for UNDP in Zaire during 1994.

II. EXECUTIVE BOARD ACTION

4. In view of the above, the Executive Board may wish to:

Authorize the Administrator to approve assistance to Zaire on a case-by-case basis within the financial limitations of its established indicative planning figure framework.

The Administrator assures the Board that the situation will be reviewed on a continuing basis and that regular country programming will be resumed as soon as conditions permit.